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gives us an idea of how this new jurisprudence is regarded in the mother country:

To the Editor of the Law Journal:

Sir,—Will you allow me to point out that the so-called “unwritten law” would have less excuse if the law itself were invariably equal to the crime, or, perhaps, rather the administration of it, which is too often grievously at fault? I remember very many years ago writing to the late Sir Robert Lush, who was at that time on the Criminal Code Reform Commission, and suggesting that magistrates should have more power given them in dealing with all deeds of violence, such as is termed in these days “hooliganism,” and he replied that the law, however defective, was not so much at fault as those who pretended to administer it, which, of course, is true enough. But if the desire to call in the aid of the “unwritten law” is to be entirely set at rest, all crimes which tend to the injury of others, whether of violence or swindling, should be much more severely dealt with than at present, and the Home Secretary, or any future Court of Appeal, should not only have the power to reduce any excessive sentence, but have equal power to raise any absurdly inadequate sentence, either by amateur magistrates, who are too often guided by their clerk, or by stipendiary magistrates, as well, of course, as by judges. An extreme instance of an inadequate sentence was that of the recent shocking case of “robbery with violence” of a young lady cyclist near Reigate, for which the brutal ruffian received only two months’ hard labour, instead of being sent to quarter sessions, where the villain could have been sentenced to five years’ penal servitude and three dozen lashes with the cat-o-nine tails.

Yours, &c.

JUSTITIA.

—London Law Journal.

IN VACATION.

His Charge.—“It is always refreshing,” says a Cleveland lawyer, “to hear of an attorney who will not undertake a shady case. I know of at least one such, a lawyer in Toledo.

“At one time a chap in business in that town known to be practicing questionable methods sought to retain the Toledo lawyer, and was smoothing over his crooked conduct as well as he knew how, when the attorney admonished him by exclaiming:

“‘I think you have acted like an infernal scoundrel, sir!’

“‘Is there any charge for that opinion?’ asked the man as he rose to go.

“‘Yes, sir; \$5.’”—Harper’s Weekly.

A Life Sentence.

She (thinking of her trousseau): This getting married is certainly a trial.

He: Well, it isn’t half as bad as working out the sentence.—Cent. Law Journal.

Another Victim.—The late Senator Pugh, of Alabama, practiced law for many years in Eufaula. A Eufaula man said of him the other day:

"In an eloquent speech on circumstantial evidence I once heard Senator Pugh drive home the danger of this sort of evidence with a good anecdote.

"He said that a Eufaula woman made one of those corn pone puddings for which the ladies of our State are famous. She put the pudding on a shelf to cool, and then she went out to have a dress fitted. Her little son, Jabez, was left alone in the house.

"Jabez played with his toys till he got hungry. Then he put a chair beneath the shelf, climbed up and ate all of the delicious pone pudding that his small interior would possibly hold. To conclude he did a strange thing.

"He caught the cat, dabbled her four paws in the soft yellow custard in the bottom of the dish, and then set her down. She scampered through the kitchen into the dining-room and parlor, and thence out of doors. On the bare boards of the kitchen, on the dining-room's red carpet, and on the parlor's carpet of green she left impartially small golden footprints, very neat, very conspicuous. The boy smiled softly to himself.

"And that evening, on his father's return, he heard a wild scampering below, the banging of the front door, a terrified mewing and the sharp crack of a rifle.

"Then little Jabez smiled softly to himself again.

"‘Ah me,’ he said, ‘there goes another victim of circumstantial evidence.’"

Guesses of Supreme Court.—In a jury trial in New York recently the attorney for the defendant started in to read to the jury from a certain volume of the Supreme Courts reports. He was interrupted by the Court, who said:

"Colonel ———, it is not admissible, you know, to read law to the jury."

"Yes, I understand, your Honor; I am only reading to the jury a decision of the Supreme Court."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Silence in Court Room.—A member of the Philadelphia bar tells of a queer old character in Altoona who for a long time was the judge of a police court in that town.

On one occasion during a session of his court there was such an amount of conversation and laughter in the court room that his Honor became very angry and confused. Suddenly, in great wrath, he shouted:

"Silence here! We have decided above a dozen cases this morning and I haven't heard a word of one of them!"—Harper's Weekly.

His Last Will and Testament.—Over in the mosquito country an old farmer died. He was reputed to be rich. After his death, however, it was found that he died penniless. His will was very brief. It ran as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen. There's only one thing I leave. I leave the earth. My relatives have always wanted that. They can have it."—Lippincott's.

Inside Information.—A story is told of the late John L. Toole, the comedian, and Mr. Justice Hawkins, now Lord Brampton. They were at supper together discussing the events of the day. The judge incidentally mentioned that he intended, on the morrow, giving the man he had been trying, fifteen years, because he deserved it. As Toole was leaving he blandly inquired: "Oh, would you mind my calling at the newspaper offices and telling them about that fifteen years? It will be a tip for them—exclusive information, you know—and will do me no end of good with the press." "Good God! No, sir," exclaimed the judge, who took the precaution of accompanying Toole to his hotel and seeing him safely to bed.—Cent. Law Journal.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The Law of Torts. By Melville Madison Bigelow, Ph. D. Harvard, 8th Edition. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Price, \$3.00.

When a law book reaches eight editions it seems almost like a work of supererogation to review it, but this book of Mr. Bigelow's in its last guise is such an excellent statement of the Law of Torts brought up to date, that we feel it necessary to give it more than passing notice. With the first edition it won its place amongst the new books which to the student of law are almost essential. Written in the concise, yet clear and able manner, it soon rendered itself valuable not only to the student but to the general practitioner who wished to review the law on the subject in the quickest and clearest way. The eighth edition brings up the law to date. It treats the subject from several new points of view, rewriting chapters where necessary and carefully annotating where annotations were necessary. We can commend the book as not only pleasantly written from a literary standpoint, but of distinct value to those who wish to acquaint themselves with the Law of Torts from a social and logical standpoint.

Cyclopedia of Law and Procedure. William Mack, editor-in-chief. Vols. XXIV and XXV. The American Law Book Company. 1907.

With each succeeding volume this series becomes more and more valuable. The only complaint we have ever heard against this series is one which can not be avoided, namely, that there are so many subjects yet untreated. It should be said, however, that the publishers are issuing the work with reasonable promptness and it